

35 USC § 112.

The Applicant thanks the Examiner for pointing these matters out.

A Terminal Disclaimer of the term over the term of U.S. Patent No. 4,370,800 is enclosed. Withdrawal of the double patenting rejection is requested.

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A method for removing metal compounds comprising copper metal compounds from waste water comprising the steps of:

- (a) adjusting the pH of the waste water to from about 5 to about 12;
- (b) aerating the waste water;
- (c) agitating the waste water, where steps (a), (b) and (c) are carried out simultaneously in a reaction tank and waste water is aerated in said reaction tank to provide a dissolved oxygen concentration at from about 0.01 lb./hr. to about 70 lbs./hr. at a waste water input flow rate of from about 50 gal./min. to about 500 gal./min. for a copper metal concentration of from about 50 mg./L to about 1,000 mg./L;
- (d) then adding a flocculating agent polymer selected from a group consisting of cationic and anionic polymers to the water and allowing flocs including said copper metal compounds to form; and
- (e) then separating said flocs including said copper metal compounds from the water.

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b2 3. The method of claim 2 wherein additional flocculating agent polymer is added to at least
a portion of the waste water containing the flocculated copper metal compounds separated
in step (e).

4 ¹¹ ₂ ³ The method of claim 8 wherein after the addition of the additional flocculating agent polymer, the flocculated copper metal compounds are dewatered in step (f) in a belt [of] filter press.

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B4 7 18. The method of claim 12 wherein additional flocculating agent is added to at least a portion of the flocculated copper metal compounds separated in step (e).

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8 14 The method of claim 13 wherein after the addition of the additional flocculating agent

B3 polymer, the flocculated copper metal compounds are dewatered in step (f) in a belt filter
press.

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23. The method of claim 22 wherein after the additional flocculating agent is added to the
flocculated metal compound is dewatered in step (f) in a belt filter press.

7. (Amended) A method for removing metal compounds comprising copper metal compounds from waste water comprising the steps of:

- (a) adjusting the pH of the waste water to from about 5 to about 12;
- (b) aerating the waste water;
- (c) agitating the waste water, where steps (a), (b) and (c) are carried out simultaneously in a reaction tank and waste water is aerated in said reaction tank to provide a dissolved oxygen concentration at from about 0.01 lb./hr. to about 70 lbs./hr. at a waste water input [plow] flow rate of from about 50 gal./min. to about 500 gal./min. for a copper metal[s] concentration of from about 50 mg./L to about 1,000 mg./L;
- (d) then adding a flocculating agent polymer selected from a group consisting of cationic and anionic polymers to the water and allowing floccules including said copper metal compounds to form; and
- (e) then separating said floccules including said copper metal compounds from the water.

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9. (Amended) The method of claim 8 wherein additional flocculating agent polymer is added to at least a portion of the waste water containing the flocculated copper metal compounds separated in step (e).

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10. (Amended) The method of claim 9 wherein after the addition of the additional flocculating agent polymer, the flocculated copper metal compounds are [is] dewatered in step (f) in a belt-[of] filter press.

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13. (Amended) The method of claim 12 wherein additional flocculating agent is added to at least a portion of the flocculated copper metal compounds separated in step (e).

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14. (Amended) The method of claim 13 wherein after the addition of the additional flocculating agent polymer, the flocculated copper metal compounds are [is] dewatered in step (f) in a belt filter press.

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23. (Amended) The method of claim 22 wherein after the additional [polymer] flocculating agent is added to the flocculated metal compound is dewatered in step (f) in a belt filter press.

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